

R E M A R K S

Claims 21-26, 38-48, 50-56, 68, and 80-86 are pending in this application with claims 50 and 80. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Initially, claims 50 and 80 are objected to for certain informalities that are addressed by the present amendments. Withdrawal of the objections is requested.

On the merits, claims 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2005/0005044 to Liu. Claims 38-48 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Liu in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,219,151 to Koybayashi and in further view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0172149 to Edsall. Finally, claims 50-56, and 80-86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Liu in view of Edsall.

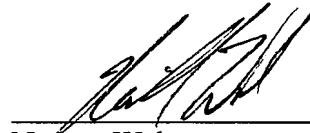
In response to these rejections, submitted herewith is a declaration from Mr. Michael Ben-Shimon. Based on this declaration it is submitted that the subject matter of the instant application and the instant claims were conceived at least as early as January 29, 2001, and has been in continued development and research through the filing date of the instant application on October 27, 2003.

It is submitted that none of the cited references are properly considered prior art. Liu has an earliest priority date of July 2, 2003, Edsall has an earliest priority date of January 23, 2002, and Kobayashi has an earliest priority date of October 23, 2003. The subject matter of the instant application and claims was conceived of at least one year prior to the earliest filing date of any of the cited references. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections to the claims based on these references is respectfully requested. It is submitted that claims 21-26, 38-48, 50-56, 68, and 80-86 are allowable.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Weber', is written over a horizontal line.

Nathan Weber
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